

Meeting Summary April 23, 2014

Call to Order

The Joint Commission on Technology and Science held its 2014 organizational meeting on Wednesday, April 23 at 9:30 a.m.. When a quorum was present, Delegate Tom Rust called the meeting to order and welcomed the members.¹

Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman

This item was taken out-of-order on the agenda near the end of the meeting.

Delegate Kathy Byron nominated Delegate Tom Rust as chairman of JCOTS. The motion was seconded by Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn, and was approved unanimously.

Delegate Rust nominated Senator Watkins as vice-chairman of JCOTS. The motion was seconded by Delegate Byron, and was unanimously approved.

2014 Legislative Update

The meeting began with staff giving an overview of technology and science legislation adopted by the 2014 Session of the General Assembly. A comprehensive document with the summaries of all technology and science legislation adopted in 2014 is available on the JCOTS website.

Of particular note were bills recommended by JCOTS to the 2014 Session of the General Assembly: HB 180 (Farrell) relating to invention development services, HB 759 (Rust)/SB 11 (Puller) relating to absentee voting procedures, HB 50 (Webert) relating to search warrants, and HB 936 (Surovell) relating to electronic textbooks. JCOTS also recommended changes to Virginia Code § 18.2-152.4 relating to computer trespass; however, that legislation was not introduced during the 2014 Session. Ultimately HB 180 and HB 759/SB 11 passed both houses with amendments and were signed into law. HB 50 and HB 936 were left in the House Courts of Justice and House Education committees, respectively.

Discussion and Adoption of the 2014 Work Plan

¹ Members present were Delegate Tom Rust, Delegate Kathy Byron, Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn, Senator John Miller, Senator John Watkins, Senator Steve Martin, and Senator Mamie Locke.

The membership next turned to the development of a work plan for the 2014 Interim. Staff called the Committee's attention to potential issues that could be continued from 2013 which included Electronic Identity Management and Education & Broadband/Technology & Education.

During the 2014 Session, the General Assembly referred two matters to JCOTS. Senate Bill 599 (Cosgrove), referred by the Senate Committee on Education and Health, relates to student data and cloud computing. Senate Joint Resolution No. 61 (Reeves) directs JCOTS to study strategies for preventing and mitigating potential damages caused by geomagnetic disturbances and electromagnetic pulses.

In addition, Delegate Terry Kilgore informally requested that JCOTS study the establishment of a consortium on space science education to advance the study of nanosatellite technology in the Commonwealth.

Based on recommendations from JCOTS staff, the following Advisory Committees were approved:

- 1. Identity Management: This advisory committee and its membership will take up the work continued from the 2013 Interim and will continue to solicit feedback and opinions regarding the need for legislation establishing private sector liability and state level oversight. Delegate Rust appointed Senator Watkins to chair this committee.
- 2. Nanosatellites: This advisory committee will focus on advancing the production of nanosatellites and identifying public and private partnerships between universities, companies, and aerospace organizations within the Commonwealth in order to advance the design and implementation of innovative space missions launching from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport. Delegate Rust appointed Delegate Plum to chair this committee.
- 3. Technology & Education: This advisory committee and its membership will take up the work continued from the 2013 Interim and will focus on issues related to broadband access to education as well as consider topics generally related to use of technology at the K-12 level. Delegate Rust appointed Senator Watkins to chair this committee.

Also based upon recommendations from JCOTS staff, the Committee agreed that HB 599, pertaining to student data and cloud computing, and SJ 61, relating to preventing and mitigating damages from geomagnetic disturbances and electromagnetic pulses, should be taken up by the Full Commission rather than assigned to advisory committees.

It was further agreed that JCOTS staff will meet with relevant stakeholders and compile a report for submission and consideration by the Full Commission regarding SJ 61. Delegate Rust suggested that Senator Reeves should be invited to continue his involvement with the study.

Staff also drew the Committee's attention to the following issues which may continue to be monitored by JCOTS: Unmanned Vehicle Systems, the Broadband Advisory Council,

Cybersecurity, the Modeling and Simulation Advisory Council, and the Aerospace Advisory Council.

Delegate Rust proposed that members contact staff regarding the advisory committees on which they wish to serve.

Other Business

There was no other business

Public Comment

After the adoption of the work plan, the floor was open for public comment. There was no public comment offered.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. Future meetings of JCOTS and its advisory committees will be posted on the JCOTS website and distributed to its mailing list.